

WYCOMBE TO MEET SLOUGH 'SOMEWHERE'

WYCOMBE Wanderers' quarter-final tie with local rivals Slough Town in the Berks and Bucks Senior Cup was postponed for the second successive week on Saturday, when Slough's Wexham Park pitch was declared unfit, after recent heavy rain, writes Michael Knox.

The decision to call off the match was made by a local referee at lunchtime on Friday, when the ground was virtually under water. The home club have been told by the contractors of the ground that it would be unwise to play on the ground again this season.

The match has now been switched to this coming Saturday, but where it will be played, is at present, anybody's guess. The three main possible venue are Wexham Park, itself, York Road, Maidenhead or Loakes Park, High Wycombe.

So despite their contractors' warning Slough officials want to play on their home ground, which they feel will be fit for play. But the Berks and Bucks F.A. have ruled, after receiving a request from Wycombe, that the game must be played on Saturday.

Wanderers wrote saying they were dissatisfied with losing games on two days, when they could have been playing elsewhere. Having acceded to this demand, the County F.A. announced that the Wexham Park pitch would be inspected on Thursday morning to decide if play was possible 48 hours later.

If the pitch, in the opinion of the referee, is unfit for play, the game will be played on a ground nominated by the Slough club or Loakes Park. Slough's Football secretary Mr. W. L. Brown said on Monday that the club's optional grounds were Maidenhead United and Marlow.

I informed him that Marlow were to meet Addlestone in the F.A. Vase at home on that day and he then confirmed that Maidenhead would be the most likely alternative.

He ruled out Hayes, where Slough played their home matches earlier in the season before Wexham Park was ready, because it was outside the Berks and Bucks area. Maidenhead's first team are away to Horsham, so the York Ground should be available. If it isn't, the

match would probably be played at Loakes.

Wanderers' secretary Mr. Bert Crump said that the club would be ready and willing to stage the tie, adding that the most important thing was to get the match played.

All this indecision leaves the fans of these two well supported clubs in a quandary. They will not know until virtually the 11th hour what arrangements to make. However, there is some consolation for ticket holders. Mr. Brown said that tickets already bought would be valid wherever the match is played.

The supporters can justly feel they are being 'mess-ed about'. I asked the secretary of the Berks and Bucks F.A. Mr. Charles Twelftree what would happen if the pitch, having been passed fit on Thursday, is deluged by heavy rain on Friday.

He replied, "The switch will have to be made. The

whole thing is aimed at getting the match played on Saturday." Personally I feel that the bodies concerned should have named a definite venue — preferably away from Slough — earlier in the week for the sake of the fans.

However there is no doubt where the winners of Saturday's match will play their semi-final tie. Their opponents Rivets Sports of the Hellenic League, unable to stage the game at their small ground, have switched it to Aylesbury United's pitch.

The match, which will be played on Saturday, February 15, has caught the imagination of the employees of the Bifurcated and Tubular Rivet Company, whose works side has already knocked out Burnham, Maidenhead and Abingdon Town en route to the semi-final.

Mr. F. G. Stanton, the Rivets secretary, is praying

that Wycombe overcome Slough, as he feels that they, as a household name, would draw in the average Aylesbury fan to the ground, which has a capacity of 5,000.

LATEST TABLES

ROTHMANS ISTMIAN LEAGUE
DIVISION 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Penalty Pts	C-D
Enfield	22	19	1	2	48	13	58	10	4
Dulwich Hamlet	27	17	3	7	48	24	54	4	0
Iford	24	14	4	6	56	32	46	4	0
Dagenham	20	14	3	3	49	22	45	2	0
Wycombe Wanderers	22	13	6	3	37	22	45	1	0
Leatherhead	21	13	4	4	47	22	43	5	0
Sutton United	28	13	2	11	48	37	41	2	0
Tooting & Mitcham Utd.	23	12	4	7	31	29	40	7	4
Kingstonian	27	12	1	14	33	42	37	3	0
Walthamstow Avenue	26	9	6	11	39	36	33	7	0
Barking	27	9	5	6	46	49	33	4	4
Slough Town	23	9	5	9	37	31	32	3	0
Bishop's Stortford	21	10	2	9	30	29	32	1	0
Hendon	25	9	5	11	34	42	32	2	0
Clapton	26	9	2	15	35	53	29	18	0
Oxford City	25	8	4	13	32	38	28	4	0
Leytonstone	24	7	5	12	25	30	26	7	0
Hayes	26	6	7	13	34	46	25	13	0
Woking	24	6	6	12	28	42	24	4	0
Hitchin Town	18	6	2	10	27	37	20	2	0
Walton & Hersham	26	4	3	19	23	70	15	5	0
Bromley	25	4	1	20	16	57	13	6	4

DIVISION 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Penalty Pts	C-D
Staines Town	21	14	2	5	46	13	44	4	8
Tilbury	26	14	4	8	49	30	44	4	0
Chesham United	23	13	4	8	44	24	43	4	0
Harwich & Parkstone	22	13	4	5	36	22	43	10	0
Harlow Town	25	13	4	8	43	36	43	7	4
Maidenhead United	27	11	6	10	32	32	39	5	0
Southall	22	11	3	8	38	32	36	4	0
St. Albans City	23	10	6	7	31	30	36	3	4
Horsham	20	11	2	7	33	23	35	2	0
Wokingham Town	23	9	4	10	23	22	31	6	0
Hampton	25	8	5	12	33	35	29	6	4
Aveley	25	8	4	13	25	42	28	3	4
Hertford Town	25	7	6	12	24	40	27	7	0
Finchley	23	6	7	10	25	37	25	3	0
Croydon	25	5	9	11	31	45	24	8	0
Boreham Wood	22	4	10	8	28	35	22	8	4
Carshalton Athletic	23	6	4	13	26	47	22	8	8
Corinthian-Casuals	22	3	6	13	17	39	15	2	0

* 2 pts. deducted — ineligible player.

C — Cautions. D — Dismissals — up to January 29.